

REMARKS

In the last Office Action, restriction was required between inventions designated as Group I, claims 1-2, drawn to a vacuum pump having a branched water cooling pipe; Group II, claims 3-4, drawn to a vacuum pump having a jointed cooling pipe; and Group III, claims 5-10, drawn to a vacuum pump having a thread pump section. The Examiner stated that the three groups of inventions are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1, thereby making restriction proper.

In response to the restriction requirement, applicants have provisionally elected the invention of Group III and list claims 5-14 as being readable on the elected invention.

Claims 1-10 have been amended in formal respects to place the claims in better form for examination, and new claims 11-14 have been added. The specification has been revised in editorial respects to bring it into better conformance with U.S. practice.

Early and favorable action are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below.

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OCTOBER 17, 2008

Date